

1942

TASMANIA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
HEALTH

R E P O R T

OF THE

SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC
HEALTH, TASMANIA

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1942

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command



TASMANIA:

H. H. PIMBLETT, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1942.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 29th June, 1943.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to present the Annual Report of the Department of Public Health for the year ended 31st December, 1942. In doing so, I desire to express appreciation of the valued contribution made by the Senior Government Medical Officer (Dr. C. L. Park).

As a measure of war-time economy, this report, apart from the usual statistical data, is presented in very brief form.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.—The total births in 1942 was 5305, representing a rate of 22·09 per thousand persons living. This is the highest rate since 1930.

Death Rate.—The death rate was 10·12 per thousand persons living, as compared with a rate of 10·76 in the preceding year.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 224. This yields an infantile mortality rate of 42·2.

Maternal Mortality.—The number of deaths totalled 20, giving a maternal mortality rate of 3·7 per 1000 live births.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

A reasonable standard of efficiency and progress has been achieved and maintained in the administration of this law and the Food and Drugs Act, which is incorporated therewith. Local health authorities generally are taking a keen and intelligent interest in many fields of preventive medicine and, with the advice and assistance of departmental officers, are encouraged to promote the health of the people.

The Department itself is carrying out the functions of the local health authority in no less than fifteen municipal districts. Already the variety and confusion of authorities concerned in the public health in these districts has been eliminated and the Department, through its local health officers, is in a position to take direct action to ascertain the true causes of disease and death, more especially of epidemics increasing the rates of mortality and the circumstances which originate and maintain such diseases and injuriously affect the public health. Much impetus has also been given to the development of local sanitary administration.

HOSPITALS.

Public Hospitals.—The amount appropriated by Parliament for 1942-43 towards the cost of the management and maintenance of public hospitals was £106,334, compared with £90,949 during the previous year. However, special grants made available in the lastmentioned period to enable various boards to meet their financial commitments brought the actual expenditure to £108,995. The present-day cost of food, medical supplies, equipment, apparatus, &c., needed for a hospital justifies the provision of added financial aid, so that the hospitals may function in the best interests of the community and without embarrassment to those persons responsible for their administration and management.

The erection of new public hospitals at Launceston and Queenstown completes the provision of a service considered adequate to meet the needs of the people for some years to come.

Private Hospitals.—Regular and systematic inspections have been made of these premises, and steps taken to enforce at least reasonable compliance with Departmental requirements. The problem associated with the acute shortage of trained nurses has caused much embarrassment to those persons responsible for the conduct of these hospitals. The Department has endeavoured to ameliorate the position, particularly in those cases where the licensee contemplated closing down owing to the inadequacy of nursing personnel.

Particulars regarding licences issued during the year are appended (Table A).

TABLE A.

Return of Private Hospital Licences Issued During the Year 1942.

	No. of Licences Issued.	Medical, Surgical, & Lying-in.	Medical & Surgical Only.	Lying-in Only.
Hobart	8	1	1	6
Launceston	7	...	3	4
Country	26	11	...	15
	41	12	4	25

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been a reduction in the total number of cases notified from 746 in 1941 to 639 in 1942. This affects the two diseases of child life, diphtheria and scarlet fever.

Diphtheria.—There has been a significant reduction in the number of cases notified, from 401 in 1941 to 291 in 1942. This is the lowest incidence of the disease since 1909-10, although there has been a progressive decline in the number of cases in recent years. For example, in the five-year period 1927-1931, the yearly average was 613 cases; in the period 1932-1936 it fell to 552; and in the period 1937-1941 it was 356. The decrease has been most marked in Launceston—39 cases in 1942 as compared with 95 in 1941—and in Hobart—108 cases as compared with 137 in 1941. The deaths during the year 1942 numbered 11, giving a case mortality of 37·8 per 1000 cases notified, as against 25 deaths and a mortality rate of 62·3 for the previous year.

Immunisation has been, and continues to be, carried out in many districts, and has probably had some influence in producing last year's good record. Harries (Brit. Encycl. Med. Prac.) has pointed out that at least one-third of the children of pre-school age must be protected by immunisation before the incidence locally, or among the community as a whole, is diminished. Concentration of effort upon school children, he remarks, is easy, but relatively unprofitable so long as the pre-school group remains at risk. A beginning has now been made to immunise pre-school children at the child welfare centres, and this will be extended later. The immunisation returns for 1942 show that much less attention has been given to the measure than in 1941. Experience has shown that, until 60 per cent of the population of pre-school and school age is protected by immunisation, the disease will continue. It is important, therefore, for municipal authorities to continue immunisation campaigns annually, if the disease is to be eradicated, as has been the case in a number of cities in Canada and the United States of America.

Typhoid Fever.—Sporadic cases to the number of nine in all were notified from eight different municipalities. There was one death.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease has shown a significant decrease from 127 cases in 1941 to 72 in the year under review. The decrease has been most marked in Hobart, where only 12 cases were notified, as compared with 25 in 1941.

Tuberculosis (all forms).—The notification of 173 cases of tuberculosis (all forms) indicates a small increase as compared with the year 1941. The increase occurred in pulmonary cases, of which there were 160. Of these cases, 73, or 45 per cent, received institutional treatment. Over the two-year period 1941-1942, the distribution of notified cases in Tasmania was—

Southern Tasmania	155
Northern Tasmania	108
North-Western Tasmania	49

This suggests the need for active measures in north-western as well as in southern and northern districts.

Recently, the Government appointed a board to advise on the measures that should be applied to control tuberculosis. This board is meeting at regular intervals and, from time to time, submits recommendations to the Government, which has now announced the acceptance of the board's recommendation to base its attack on the disease on the results of mass X-ray examination of the population. The chest clinics are playing an important part in the control of the disease by carrying on the treatment of ambulatory cases and by the follow-up of contacts.

Puerperal Fever.—Nine cases were notified, seven of which came from Hobart and Launceston.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.—Seven cases were notified, four of which came from Hobart. Table D. shows that, of the 1006 cases reported during the 1937-38 epidemic, 910 were living at the 31st December, 1942, their condition being as follows:—

Cured	623
Cured with time	59
Moderate permanent cripples	176
Severe permanent cripples	52

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.—There has been a very significant increase in the incidence of this disease, the notifications numbering 77. This is a disease which is apt to follow the aggregation of people. The increase noted may thus be regarded as a result of war-time conditions.

TABLE B.

RETURN showing Number of Cases of each Notifiable Infectious Disease notified to the Department of Public Health during the Year 1942, together with Comparative Figures of the Aggregate of such Diseases for the Years 1941 and 1942.

Municipality.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Tubercu- losis (All Forms).	Puerperal Fever.	Acute An- terior Pol- iomyelitis	Cerebro- Spinal Meningitis.	Lethargic Encephalitis	Amoebic Dysentery	Bacillary Dysentery	Total, 1942.	Total, 1941.
1 Beaconsfield ...	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	15
2 Bothwell	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
3 Brighton	6	...	3	2	...	...	14	...	...	...	25	9
4 Bruny	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	9
5 Burnie	2	...	3	6	...	...	4	...	...	...	15	20
6 Campbell Town	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
7 Circular Head .	2	...	9	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	17	10
8 Clarence	8	...	5	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	16	10
9 Deloraine.....	...	...	1	2	...	...	4	...	...	...	7	8
10 Devonport	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	14
11 Esperance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
12 Evandale.....	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	9
13 Fingal	...	1	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7
14 Flinders	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
15 George Town ...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
16 Glamorgan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
17 Glenorchy.....	18	1	7	8	1	1	3	...	...	...	39	44
18 Gormanston ...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
19 Green Ponds ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
20 Hamilton.....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8
21 Hobart.....	108	2	12	46	5	4	16	...	...	1	194	216
22 Huon	1	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	6
23 Kentish	6	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4
24 Kingborough ...	13	1	1	7	...	...	3	...	...	...	25	21
25 King Island ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
26 Latrobe	3	...	1	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	9	5
27 Launceston	39	1	15	26	...	...	9	...	...	...	90	152
28 Leven	4	...	2	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	10	25
29 Lilydale	5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	1
30 Longford	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10
31 New Norfolk ...	27	1	2	8	...	...	5	...	...	...	43	42
32 Oatlands	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
33 Penguin	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
34 Port Cygnet ...	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	6
35 Portland	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
36 Queenstown ...	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	24
37 Richmond	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
38 Ringarooma ..	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	8
39 Ross	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1
40 Scottsdale	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	4	8
41 Sorell	3	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	7	2
42 Spring Bay.....	10	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...
43 St. Leonards ..	1	...	4	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	13	5
44 Strahan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
45 Table Cape	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	2
46 Tasman	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
47 Waratah	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
48 Westbury	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	11
49 Zeehan	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6
TOTALS.....	291	9	72	173	9	7	77	..	...	1	639	746

TABLE C.

Chest Clinics—Particulars of Work Performed During the Year 1942.

	Chest Clinic, Hobart.					Chest Clinic, Launceston.				
	Over 14 Years.		Under 14 Years.		Total.	Over 14 Years.		Under 14 Years.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of New Cases Applying	73	82	11	3	169	16	9	1	...	26
New Cases taken on at Clinic for Observation and Treatment	101	175	55	29	360	27	32	25	14	98
Re-attendances	972	1123	56	40	2191	227	232	81	50	590
Re-examinations	419	440	5	8	872	139	141	66	38	384
Clinic Cases Transferred to Sana- torium.....	40	28	1	1	70	2	9	...	...	11
Sanatorium Cases Transferred to Clinic for Special Treatment ...	7	10	...	...	17	1	8	1	...	10
Patients Discharged after Treat- ment at the Clinic :—										
Markedly Improved.....	...	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>In statu quo</i>	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Worse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arrested	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cured	1	5	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
Patients Found Non-Tuberculous	30	41	13	3	87	4	1	...	1	6
Contacts :—										
Number of Infecting Cases...	56	40	...	...	96	17	25	...	...	42
Number of Contacts Ex- amined	28	93	45	26	192	11	19	19	12	61
Number of Contacts Re-Ex- amined	53	148	109	88	398	5	14	33	34	86
Number of Contacts Found Tuberculous	...	2	3	...	5	...	2	2	1	5
Number of Contacts Under Suspicion Tb.....	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Invalid Pensioners Seen.....	...	...	...	...	...	107	94	...	...	201
Home Visits :—										
Medical Officer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nurse's First Visit	...	...	...	...	46	51	37	2	...	90
Nurse's Re-Visits.....	...	...	...	...	707	286	305	14	16	621
Special Visits in Connection with After-care	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumothorax Refills	368	391	...	...	759	33	55	...	...	88
X-Ray Examinations (Films) ...	176	252	35	13	476	57	74	41	32	204
X-Ray Examinations (Screen) ...	310	290	...	...	600	16	7	...	...	23
Sputum Examinations	...	...	...	...	286	41	21	...	...	62
Blood Sedimentation Tests.....	83	75	...	...	158	...	...	...	...	...
Total Attendances, Old and New Cases ..	...	...	...	...	2955	305	432	112	71	920

TABLE D.
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.
Progressive Reports of Condition of Cases Notified during 1937-38 Epidemic.

No. of Cases Notified.	Condition as at 31.12.1938.				
	Cured.	Cured with Time.	Moderate Perma- nent Cripples.	Severe Permanent Cripples.	Died.
1006	443	266	137	79	81

No. of Cases Living at 1.1.39.	Condition as at 31.12.1939.				
	Cured.	Cured with Time.	Moderate Perma- nent Cripples.	Severe Permanent Cripples.	Died.
925	554	187	111	65	8

No. of Cases Living at 1.1.40.	Condition as at 31.12.40.				
	Cured.	Cured with Time	Moderate Perma- nent Cripples	Severe Permanent Cripples.	Died.
917	592	128	136	58	3

No. of Cases Living at 1.1.41.	Condition as at 31.12.41.				
	Cured.	Cured with Time.	Moderate Perma- nent Cripples.	Severe Permanent Cripples.	Died.
914	614	82	163	52	3

No. of Cases Living at 1.1.42.	Condition as at 31.12.42.				
	Cured.	Cured with Time.	Moderate Perma- nent Cripples.	Severe Permanent Cripples.	Died.
911	623	59	176	52	1

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The number of notifications received was 170. Of these, 125 were in respect of cases of gonorrhœa and 41 of syphilis. Half the total notifications related to persons in the age group 20-35 years, and in this group 70 per cent of the patients were males. An improvement has recently been made in regard to the treatment of these diseases at the Royal Hobart Hospital by the appointment of a specialist medical staff, the members of which hold clinics for both men and women at convenient times twice weekly.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND
INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The work of the child welfare nurses is summarised in Table E, from which it will be seen that it is carried on from thirty-three centres located throughout the State. The scope of the nurses' duties includes visits to new-born babies, visits to mothers and expectant mothers at their homes, as well as the giving of attention to the large number of babies brought to the centres. The work is of the utmost importance in keeping

children well or, where this is not possible, in noting the first sign of departure from normal health, and giving the mother the best advice in order to ensure a speedy return to such health. The visits to the homes are most helpful, since the conditions under which the children are being brought up have a marked influence on their general well being. These conditions the nurses can improve, where necessary.

The Mothercraft Home continues to provide for sick and weakly infants, and to serve as a training centre for infant welfare sisters and mothercraft nurses. A new infectious block has recently been opened to provide for the immediate isolation of any infants suffering from communicable diseases.

Courses in "Mothercraft and Infant Hygiene" are given by child welfare nurses and bush nurses in a number of schools throughout the State, and, during the year, 286 certificates were issued to school girls who had completed the course satisfactorily.

The need for ensuring that the expectant mother receives medical supervision throughout her pregnancy is recognised everywhere. To meet

this need, special ante-natal sessions are now being held regularly at each of the metropolitan child welfare centres. The increasing number of attendances shows that this innovation is appreciated. The nurse in attendance can give the mothers much valuable advice as to diet, exercise, rest, sleep, clothing, &c., and, where there is any suggestion of a departure from normal conditions, medical advice is available. Quite apart from the beneficial effect of this supervision to the mothers, it affords the only way of reducing the infant mortality in the first month of life. Approximately 25 per cent to 30 per cent of babies who die in their first year of life succumb in the first month from causes which have operated before birth.

TABLE E.
SUMMARY of Work Performed by Child Welfare Nurses during the Year ended 31st December, 1942.

No. of Centres.	Visits to Individual New-born Babies.	Subsequent Visits to Mothers.	Visits to Expectant Mothers.	Individual Babies Attending Clinics.	Total Attendances at Clinics by Babies.	Total Attendances at Clinics by Expectant Mothers.
33	3772	17,302	546	8503	64,926	816

TABLE F.
INFANTILE Mortality.
Number of Deaths under One Year in Tasmania for the last 20 Calendar Years.

	Year.																			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Deaths.....	326	296	287	232	256	300	255	242	219	185	187	189	231	227	202	195	203	176	255	224

Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1000 Births).

Year.	Tasmania.	N.S.W.	Victoria	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	New Zealand.	North. T'tory	Aust. Cap Ter.	Aust.
1926.....	46·5	57·6	55·7	50·7	44·3	49·3	39·8	...	...	54·0
1927.....	53·0	54·9	56·1	54·5	53·4	45·9	38·7	...	...	54·5
1928	63·9	54·9	55·6	45·5	47·5	48·1	36·2	60·2	116·7	53·0
1929... ..	53·1	56·6	47·2	46·1	40·9	56·2	34·1	18·9	19·6	51·1
1930.....	50·6	49·8	46·5	40·2	48·3	46·7	34·5	70·4	24·4	47·2
1931.....	46·0	43·5	44·5	36·6	36·5	41·5	32·2	83·3	37·3	42·1
1932.....	41·2	41·1	43·0	40·3	36·6	44·6	31·2	75·9	26·5	41·3
1933.....	41·1	39·3	40·4	42·6	31·9	36·8	31·6	94·6	53·4	39·5
1934.....	42·3	46·4	44·6	40·6	35·6	40·9	32·1	68·18	7·46	43·6
1935.....	51·8	39·4	41·2	37·8	34·9	40·2	32·3	83·3	47·3	39·8
1936.....	49·6	43·5	42·3	36·3	31·1	42·2	31·0	26·6	25·3	41·1
1937.....	41·7	40·7	36·7	35·6	33·1	37·5	31·2	30·3	14·5	38·1
1938.....	39·7	41·8	34·2	41·3	30·5	33·8	35·6	58·8	35·0	38·3
1939.....	40·6	41·0	35·6	34·7	34·8	40·7	31·1	65·2	23·9	38·1
1940.....	35·2	39·0	39·5	35·3	35·5	46·5	30·2	46·2	7·0	38·7
1941.....	49·0	43·8	36·2	39·1	32·5	35·3	29·7	83·3	16·4	39·7*
1942.....	42·2	40·1	41·8	34·8	39·5	36·8	(a)	43·5	25·5	39·5*

(a) Not available. * Excludes New Zealand.

TABLE G.

TABLE showing the Principal Causes of Death of Children under 1 Year of Age in Tasmania in each Year from 1933 to 1942.

Causes of Death.		1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
8.	Scarlet Fever, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9.	Whooping Cough	4	7	...	7	4	...	...	...	25	1
10.	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2	1
	Other Epidemic Diseases	1	...	4	4	1	2	2	2	...	5
12.	Tetanus	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14a.	Tubercular Meningitis	...	2	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	1
30.	Syphilis	...	1	..	2	2	3	1	...	...	...
35.	Measles	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
86.	Convulsions	2	5	5	5	1	5	3	2	2	1
106.	Bronchitis	...	1	2	2	...	1	1	...	3	1
107.	Broncho-pneumonia	18	17	22	22	17	24	20	21	23	32
108, 109.	Pneumonia	3	3	8	6	4	4	4	2	5	7
	Other Diseases of the Stomach	...	1	1	3	...	...	3	...	2	...
119.	Gastro-Enteritis, Diarrhoea, and Enteritis	9	19	10	4	...	4	2	3	2	7
157.	Congenital Defects	24	11	24	28	11	22	31	21	18	17
159, 160.	Premature Birth and Injury at Birth	73	64	90	89	93	70	80	76	105	89
158.	Debility, Marasmus.....	13	21	16	15	22	17	13	11	18	10
161.	Other Diseases of Early Infancy	20	21	20	23	29	27	21	27	33	33
	Other Causes	19	15	27	15	17	15	18	11	16	17
Total		187	189	231	227	202	195	203	176	255	224
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1000 Births) ...		41.1	42.3	51.8	49.6	41.7	39.7	40.6	35.2	49.0	42.2
Total Births		4553	4470	4456	4581	4841	4907	5004	4994	5206	5305

TABLE H.

(Showing Ages and Causes of Death under One Year—1942.)

Causes of Death and Classification Number.	Under 1 week.	1 week and under 1 month.	1 month and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 1 year.	Total under 1 year.
6. Cerebro-spinal Meningococcal Meningitis.....	...	...	...	1	1	2
9. Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	1	...	1
10. Diphtheria.....	...	...	1	...	...	1
14a. Tuberculosis of the Meninges	...	...	...	1	...	1
24. Purulent Infection and Septicaemia.	...	...	...	...	1	1
33a. Influenza with Respiratory Complications ..	...	...	1	...	1	2
35. Measles	...	...	...	...	2	2
63b. Exophthalmic Goitre	...	1	...	...	...	1
64. Diseases of the Thymus Gland	...	...	...	1	1	2
66b. "Pink" Disease.....	...	...	1	...	...	1
80a Intra-Cranial Abscess.....	...	...	1	...	...	1
81a Simple Meningitis.....	...	...	1	...	...	1
84a. Mental Deficiency.....	...	...	...	1	1	2
86. Convulsions of Infants.....	...	...	1	...	...	1
87e. Other Diseases of the Nervous System	1	...	...	...	...	1
89. Diseases of Ear and Mastoid Process.....	...	...	...	1	...	1
106a. Acute Bronchitis.....	...	...	...	...	1	1
107. Broncho-Pneumonia	...	3	7	8	14	32
108. Lobar Pneumonia	1	2	1	1	2	7
111. Congestion of Lungs, &c.....	1	...	...	...	...	1
119. Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	1	4	2	7
122. Intestinal Obstruction.....	...	...	...	...	2	2
124b. Cirrhosis of the Liver.....	...	...	...	...	1	1
157a. Congenital Hydrocephalus....	...	...	...	...	1	1
157b. Spina Bifida & Meningocele...	1	1	...	...	...	2
157c. Congenital Malformation of the Heart	4	2	...	...	...	6
157e. Congenital Pyloric Stenosis...	...	...	1	...	...	1
157f. Cleft Palate, Harelip.....	...	...	1	...	...	1
157g. Imperforate Anus	1	...	...	...	...	1
157i. Other Congenital Malformations	5	...	...	...	...	5
158. Congenital Debility.....	8	2	...	...	...	10

TABLE H—continued.

Causes of Death and Classification Number.	Under 1 week.	1 week and under 1 month.	1 month and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 1 year.	Total under 1 year.
159. Premature Birth.....	59	15	4	...	...	78
160. Injury at Birth	8	2	...	1	...	11
161a. Asphyxia, Atelectasis	13	...	...	1	...	14
161b. Maternal Toxaemia.....	1	...	...	...	...	1
161e. Hæmorrhagic Condition of the Newborn.....	6	3	...	...	...	9
161f. Icterus Neonatorum.....	4	2	...	...	...	6
161g. Other Diseases of First Year of Life	1	1	...	...	1	3
180. Conflagration	...	...	...	...	1	1
181. Accidental Burns (not conflagration)	...	1	...	...	...	1
182. Accidental Mechanical Suffocation	...	...	1	...	...	1
Total	114	35	22	21	32	224

TABLE I.

Comparative Figures of Principal Causes of Death under One Year during 1938-1942.

Causes of Death.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	25	1
Convulsions	5	3	2	2	1
Bronchitis	1	1	...	3	1
Broncho-Pneumonia.....	24	20	21	23	32
Pneumonia.....	4	4	2	5	7
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	4	2	3	2	7
Congenital Debility	17	13	11	18	10
Syphilis	3	1	...	...	...
Malformations	22	31	21	18	17
Prematurity and injury at Birth	70	80	76	105	89
Other Diseases of Early Infancy	27	21	27	33	33

TABLE K.
SUMMARY of Work Performed by Government Medical Officers during the Year ended 31st December, 1942, together with Comparative Figures for the Year 1941.

District.	Population.	Date of Commence- ment of Service in each District.	Number of Attendances upon Patients, showing Location of Attendance (excluding Workers' Compensation and Midwifery Cases which are shown separately).				Number of Attend- ances upon Work- ers' Compensation Cases.		Number of Attendances upon Midwif- ery Cases		Total of all Attend- ances.		Mileage Covered.	
			Resi- dence.	Surgery.	Hospital.	TOTAL.		TOTAL.	TOTAL.	TOTAL.	1942.	1941.	1942.	1941.
						1942.	1941.							
Esperance ...	1,271	11.3.38	1,099	885	54	2,038	2,060	6	13	—	2,045	2,073	6,515	6,930
Flinders ...	1,003	1.5.38	1,177	391	144	1,712	1,872	8	15	2	1,721	1,889	9,141	8,785
Glamorgan- Spring Bay	1,694	18.5.38	672	531	97	1,300	1,373	3	11	9	1,319	1,393	10,101	10,389
George Town...	1,071	5.1.40	319	492	154	965	1,332	—	4	1	965	1,337	9,013	9,816
Hamilton... ..	2,293	1.5.38	2,549	1,972	47	4,568	4,612	26	47	37	4,646	4,696	13,663	14,221
Kingborough- Bruny	4,841	1.3.38	1,981	3,203	2	5,186	3,150	69	59	1	5,256	3,211	13,137	12,984
King Island ...	1,216	1.9.38	645	1,709	225	2,579	2,528	41	44	23	2,643	2,608	6,180	5,805
Penguin	2,832	13.7.38	1,650	1,404	223	3,277	3,821	2	22	27	3,306	3,845	7,690	7,785
Port Cygnet...	3,143	1.7.40	2,863	3,753	12	6,628	3,761	26	39	24	6,678	3,817	14,021	8,945
Portland	1,645	14.6.39	1,876	1,067	—	2,943	3,566	20	18	1	2,964	3,586	9,603	6,353
Ringarooma ...	4,212	1.1.40	738	1,648	1	2,387	2,182	50	84	8	2,445	2,266	8,683	7,840
Scottsdale... ..	2,754	5.8.39	1,062	3,694	826	5,582	5,632	20	25	17	5,619	5,681	7,408	9,198
Sorell... ..	2,218	1.12.38	830	711	225	1,766	2,274	19	8	18	1,803	2,289	7,507	9,074
Tasman	1,339	21.4.38	1,250	328	108	1,686	1,883	11	17	24	1,721	1,913	10,297	9,731
Totals	31,532	...	18,711	21,788	2,118	42,617	40,046	301	406	213	43,131	40,604	132,959	127,856

BUSH NURSING.

The record of service performed by bush nurses calls for favourable comment. Apart from actual nursing services, it is interesting to note that special efforts are made in connection with ante-natal, child welfare, and school work, the last-mentioned including lectures on mothercraft and infant hygiene to girl pupils.

Much effort has been called for to maintain existing services, owing to the acute shortage of nurses, which also precludes any extension of

bush nursing at various locations throughout the State.

By maintaining a close relationship with the activities of individual nurses, and affording information and advice as required, the Department has done its utmost to promote the Bush Nursing Scheme. The bush nursing associations, by their co-operation and support, have also played an important part in this field of service.

A summary of the work performed during the period under review is set out in Table J.

TABLE J.
Summary of Work Performed in Bush Nursing Centres during the Year ended 31st December, 1942.

Visits to Nurse.	Visits to Patients.	Nursing Days.	Maternity Cases.	Ante-natal Visits.	Child Welfare Visits.	School Visits.	Mileage.	Fees Earned.	Ward Beds.
13,336	7836	3295	182	1205	5891	206	29,695	£1611 5 2	35

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL SERVICE.

Statistical information in respect of the services rendered by Government medical officers during the year is summarised in Table K. on page 10. This information affords ample evidence of what has been achieved in the way of medical service in the districts in which these officers are functioning.

As opportunities present themselves, these appointments are being made more attractive in that modern homes are either being acquired or erected for the use of the doctors. Shortage of the requisite medical personnel does not admit of the extension of the service to many additional municipalities which have made application for the inauguration of the scheme in their districts.

The work being carried out by Government medical officers in the field of preventive medicine calls for favourable comment.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

The school medical service has been carried out by one full-time medical officer, and by sixteen Government medical officers in conjunction with their other duties. In addition, four school nurses have carried out regular inspections, which supplement the work of the medical officers, whilst similar functions have been performed by bush nurses, of whom there are twenty-one, located in various districts throughout the State.

The number of children inspected by medical officers was 6377, and the defects noted in order of frequency were—dental caries, presence of adenoids and diseased tonsils, aural and ocular defects, skin diseases, nasal troubles, enlargement of thyroid gland, and defects of posture. The aim is to have the defects treated by the family physician or, failing this, at a public hospital. However, the Department's efforts in this direction have not met with a satisfactory response, despite the fact that, in necessitous cases, cost of transport to hospital has been provided.

There is a noticeable difference in the assessing of the nutritional condition of children as a result of medical examinations. For convenience, a height and weight standard for different ages is used as a comparison, but it is well understood that this is a guide only, and that a decision as to the state of nutrition of any child is to be

arrived at on clinical grounds. The difference in the findings of medical officers on this important matter is not peculiar to this State, and it raises the question whether any assessment of the nutrition status should be made at the time of the routine school medical examination.

The activities of the various school dental clinics have been well maintained throughout the year.

Table L contains particulars of the work performed under this heading.

TABLE L.
Summary of Work Performed under the School Medical Service by Government Medical Officers, School Nurses, and School Dental Inspectors during the Year ended 31st December, 1942.

Number of children examined by Government medical officers, either alone or with the assistance of a school nurse	6,377
Number of such children notified as defective	4,602
Number of children examined by school nurses	14,844
Number of interviews with parents by school nurses	1,098
Number of treatments given to children at school dental clinics	55,417

STAFF.

Lt.-Col. B. M. Carruthers, Director of Public Health, was absent with the Australian Imperial Force during the whole of the year.

On the 1st October, Dr. C. L. Park, M.D., D.P.H., accepted the appointment of Senior Government Medical Officer. The Department was extremely fortunate in securing the services of such an able and experienced worker in the field of public health.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks for the support rendered me by officers during the year.

I have, &c.,

E. J. TUDOR,
Secretary for Public Health.

The Hon. the Minister for Health.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.

Government Analyst's Laboratory,
Hobart, 12th August, 1943.

SIR,

I submit the following report on the work of the analytical laboratories for the year 1942.

Samples Received during the Year.

	No. of Samples.
Apples, evaporated	27
Butter	99
Cereals and bread	19
Charcoal	30
Cheese	10
Confectionery	12
Cream and condensed milk	34
Drugs and chemicals	19
Fertilisers and insecticides	27
Fish and meat products	94
Fruit, jam, and tinned vegetables	19
Hydrometers	10
Kerosene and turpentine	11
Milk, cows	363
Milk, human	10
Minerals and metals	49
Motor spirits	43
Oils and fats, edible	13
Oils, Mineral	15
Poisons and police tests	68
Sauces and condiments	39
Soils	105
Spirits and wines	14
Tea, coffee, cocoa	27
Thermometers, clinical	316
Vinegar	11
Water and effluents	67
Miscellaneous	53
	1,604

Butter.

A small excess of water above the 16 per cent allowed was found in 25 samples for export, and two for local consumption were unfit for food.

Cream.

One sample was deficient in milk fat, and another was unfit for food.

Milk.

Ten samples were deficient in milk fat, 16 were deficient in other milk solids, and six contained added water. One of these contained 33 per cent water and two others over 20 per cent water.

One sample of evaporated milk was in an unsatisfactory condition.

Oils, Edible.

One sample sold as olive oil was found to be another oil.

Oils, Mineral.

Eleven oils examined for the Transport Department (Railway Branch) were found to be outside requirements of specifications.

Pepper.

A tin of pepper contained short weight.

Poisons.

Strychnine was found in four cases of dog poisoning. Phenol was found in a case of suicide.

Sausages.

Excess of starch was found in ten cases; in two of them over 12 per cent, or more than double the amount allowed. Three others contained between eight and ten per cent.

Spirits.

A rum was 24·7 per cent deficient in proof spirit, and a brandy 8 per cent deficient.

Sugar.

One sample of sugar was unfit for food owing to contact with extraneous matter.

Thermometers, Clinical.

Customs regulations require these to be accurate within 0·2° F. Thirty were outside this limit.

Water.

Twelve samples were unfit for human consumption.

I have, &c.,

E. WARD, Government Analyst.

The Secretary for Public Health.

APPENDIX II.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 12th March, 1943.

SIR,

I submit the following report of work performed by the inspectorial staff of the Department during the year 1942.

Staff.

Chief Inspector H. H. Parker, M.R.S.I.
Inspector D. S. Clark (stationed at Launceston).
Inspector W. J. Davies.

Routine Sanitary Surveys and General Inspections.

Sanitary surveys, and special inspections as required, received attention throughout the whole State. Details of inspections made under this heading are set out hereunder:—

Nature of Inspection.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Cases in which Action was Called For.
Auction marts and sale yards	20	3
Bacteriolytic tanks, including sites and plans	403	40
Bakeries	62	22
Butchers' shops	110	32
Buildings, including sites and plans	218	68
Boarding-houses	10	4
Camps	8	2
Dairying premises	108	34
Domestic inspections	109	47
Drainage matters	101	75
Food stores	188	37
Garbage depots and services	34	10
Hospitals	83	17
Huts—fruit-pickers' and hop-pickers'	198	20
Infectious diseases	6	
Licensed premises	115	21
Offensive trade premises	136	50
Reserves, beaches, and camping grounds	63	16
Sanitary depots and services	37	4
Scallop depots	32	9
Schools	133	46
Sewerage schemes	9	2
Subdivisions of land	9	1
Water supplies, including sampling	31	9
Wharves, jetties, &c.	9	1
Miscellaneous	152	32

Legal proceedings were instituted in six instances for breaches of the law. Two charges were dismissed, whilst in the other cases fines totalling £8 19s. 6d. were imposed.

Dairying Premises.

Numerous inspections of buildings, plants, and utensils were made, more particularly in those districts where health services are directly controlled by the Department. It can be stated that the improvements effected in this connection have been well worth the instruction given by officers concerned.

Food and Drugs Sampling.

One hundred and ninety-three samples of foods and drugs were obtained and submitted to the Government Analyst for examination. Of these, four were found to be adulterated. One warning was issued, whilst legal proceedings were instituted in three instances, in which fines amounting to £8 5s. were imposed. One hundred and eighty bottles of alcoholic spirits were tested for their prescribed strength, and of these three were discovered to be below standard. Prosecutions ensued, the total fines amounting to £13 2s. 6d.

Seizure and Condemnation of Food.

Food seized and condemned as being unfit for human consumption consisted of 75 lbs. meat, 24 lbs. fish, 25 lbs. potatoes, and 30 cases apples.

Examinations—Royal Sanitary Institute.

In the month of January, examinations under the auspices of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London, were held at Hobart to enable persons to qualify for certificates issued by the Institute. Of the twelve candidates who presented themselves for the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, seven were successful in passing the examination. Three candidates sat for the Certificate of Inspector of Meat and other Foods, two of whom qualified.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I desire to thank council clerks and inspectors for their co-operation and assistance on all occasions.

I have, &c.,

H. H. PARKER, Chief Health Inspector.

The Secretary for Public Health.

- (4) Providing in the syllabus of study for general nurses a course on the nursing care of sick children.

Post-graduate Lectures to Midwifery Nurses.

Special attention has been given to the post-graduate education of midwifery nurses in the care of premature and other weakly infants. Lectures were delivered by Matron C. MacGillivray, of the Mothercraft Home, and Sister O. M. Green, of the Launceston Baby Health Centre, in Hobart, Launceston, and various districts on the north-west coast. All practising midwifery nurses who do not possess child welfare certificates were furnished with copies of the lectures and other literature on the same subject issued by the Department.

Training Schools.

Training schools registered.—General, 13; mental, 1; midwifery, 4.

Applications for Training and Resumption of Training.

Approved.—General, 160; midwifery, 22; refused, nil.

Trainees.

Total Number in Training.—General, 454; midwifery, 34.
Resigned, &c.—General, 62; midwifery, 1.
Completed Training.—General, 65; midwifery, 23.

Examinations.

Educational tests for intending trainees—

Applications	7
Passed examination	6
Failed	1

Examinations for the registration of nurses—

Candidates:

General	67
Midwifery	26

Results:

	Passed.	Failed.
General	62	5
Midwifery	25	1

Registration of Nurses.

Registered.—General, 110; mental, 3; midwifery, 40.
Renewed Registration.—General, 461; mental, 4; midwifery, 206.

We have, &c.,

C. R. D. BROTHERS, Chairman.
E. J. TUDOR, Secretary.

The Hon. the Minister for Health.

APPENDIX III.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 30th June, 1943.

SIR,

We have the honour to submit the annual report of the Nurses' Registration Board for the year 1942.

Personnel of Board.

Chairman: Dr. C. R. D. Brothers, Medical Superintendent, Lachlan Park Hospital.
Acting Medical Superintendent, Royal Hobart Hospital.
Medical Superintendent, Launceston General Hospital.
Dr. T. C. Butler.
Miss A. R. Cockayne, Matron, Royal Hobart Hospital.
Miss C. I. Skirving, Matron, Launceston General Hospital.
Miss A. M. Booth, Matron, Devon Public Hospital, Latrobe.

Board Meetings.

The Board held three ordinary meetings and one special meeting during the year.

Legislation.

The regulations were amended in the following directions:—

- (1) Providing for an increase from at least ten to at least twenty in the daily average number of occupied beds in four-year training schools for general nurses:
- (2) Lowering from twenty to nineteen years the age at which a pupil nurse may commence her midwifery training:
- (3) Reducing the period of sick leave allowed trainees in general nursing from two weeks to ten days annually;

APPENDIX IV.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Statistical and General.

Population:

Estimated on the 31st December, 1942—

Males	122,100
Females	119,337
Total	241,437

Mean population, 1942 (for whole year)—

Males	121,302
Females	118,818
	240,120

Mean population, 1941 (for whole year) 239,416
Increase for year

The population of the State, as shown by the figures, reveals an increase of 704.

Australian Birth-rate for the Year 1942 per 1000.
Persons Living.

(As compared with the previous year and a year in the previous decade.)

	1932.	1941.	1942.
New South Wales	17.74	18.48	18.60
Victoria	15.21	17.76	18.27
Queensland	17.89	20.80	20.46
South Australia	14.54	18.26	18.54
Western Australia	18.85	21.62	21.06
Tasmania	20.25	21.75	22.09
Northern Territory	17.51	21.30	10.45
Australian Capital Territory	17.30	27.98	32.15
Australia	16.94	18.94	19.06

Death Rate for 1942 per 1000 Persons Living.

(As compared with the previous year and a year in the previous decade.)

	1932.	1941.	1942.
New South Wales	8.44	9.75	10.32
Victoria	9.30	10.59	11.18
Queensland	8.05	9.21	9.30
South Australia	8.46	10.47	11.04
Western Australia	8.79	10.19	10.80
Tasmania	9.12	10.76	10.12
Northern Territory	16.18	12.03	9.43
Australian Capital Territory	17.30	27.98	32.15
Australia	8.66	10.02	10.49

Deaths in Relation to Disease.

The following return, from data supplied by the Deputy-Commonwealth Statistician, shows the number and causes of deaths during the year 1942, also the death-rate per 10,000 persons living (mean population 240,120), as contrasted with the previous year, 1941 (mean population estimated at 239,416).

Cause of Death.	Number of Deaths, 1941.	Death Rate per 10,000 persons.	Number of Deaths, 1942.	Death Rate per 10,000 persons.
General Diseases—				
Typhoid Fever	2	·1	1	·1
Malaria	..	..	..	..
Smallpox	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	7	·3
Scarlet Fever	1	·1	..	..
Whooping Cough	32	1·3	1	·1
Diphtheria and Croup	25	1·0	11	·5
Influenza	9	·4	16	·6
Dysentery	..	..	1	·1
Syphilis	22	·9	10	·4
Tubercular Diseases	110	4·6	129	5·4
Rheumatic Fever, Rheumatism, and Gout	14	·6	18	·7
Cancer, all forms	303	12·7	283	11·8
Dietic Diseases and Industrial Poisoning	3	·1	..	..
Other General Diseases	104	4·3	115	4·7
Total General	625	26·1	592	24·7
Local Diseases—				
Diseases of Nervous System...	260	10·9	229	9·5
Diseases of Circulatory System	687	28·7	636	26·5
Diseases of Respiratory Organs	249	10·4	255	10·6
Diseases of Digestive Organs	93	3·9	114	4·7
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	213	8·9	199	8·3
Diseases of Puerperal Origin..	13	·5	20	·8
Diseases of the Skin	6	·2	4	·2
Diseases of Bones and Malformations	27	1·2	24	1·0
Diseases of Early Infancy	156	6·5	132	5·5
Total Local Diseases	1704	71·2	1613	67·1
Deaths Produced by External Causes—				
Accident or Negligence.....	129	5·4	124	5·1
Homicide	4	·1	2	·1
Suicide	21	·9	23	1·0
Total External Causes ...	154	6·4	149	6·2
Ill-defined—Not Specific Diseases —				
Old Age	91	3·8	74	3·1
Ill-defined Diseases	1	·1	2	·1
Total Ill-defined Diseases	92	3·9	76	3·2
Total Deaths, All Causes	2575	107·6	2430	101·2

RETURN Showing the Number of Deaths from Typhoid during the last Ten Years under Age Groups.

Year.	Per-sons										Total all Ages.
	1933.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.	41.	42.	
Under 5.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5-10.	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
10-15.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15-20.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
20-25.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
25-30.	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
30-35.	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
35-40.	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
40-45.	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
45-50.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
50-55.	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
55-60.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
60-65.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and over.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total all Ages.	11	6	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

DEATHS from Tuberculosis during the last Ten Years.

	Number.										Death Rate per 100,000 Persons Living.									
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System (No. 13)	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Other forms of Tuberculosis (Nos. 14-22)	112	93	105	112	86	107	102	85	96	108	49	41	46	48	37	45	43	36	40	45
Totals	15	19	25	23	34	16	24	18	14	21	7	8	11	10	14	7	10	7	6	9
	127	112	130	135	120	123	126	103	110	129	56	49	57	58	51	52	53	43	46	54

Typhoid Fever.

Year, 1942.

Number of cases notified	9
Number of deaths, year 1942 (calendar)—	
Males	1
Females	—

Scarlet Fever.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Deathrate per 10,000 population.	Cases per 1000 persons living.	Deaths per 1000 cases notified.	Death % of Cases.
1923	604	3	.1	2.79	5.0	0.5
1924	376	3	.1	1.74	8.0	0.8
1925	288	3	.1	1.34	10.4	1.0
1926	188	1	.05	.88	5.3	0.5
1927	91	2	.1	.43	22.0	2.2
1928	190	1	.05	.88	5.3	0.5
1929	314	2	.1	1.44	6.4	0.6
1930	485	8	.4	2.20	16.5	1.6
1931	265	...	...	1.18	...	...
1932	417	5	.2	1.84	12.0	1.2
1933	370	4	.2	1.61	10.9	1.1
1934	362	4	.2	1.58	11.0	1.1
1935	302	1	.05	1.32	3.3	0.3
1936	478	6	.3	2.07	12.6	1.3
1937	412	2	.1	1.76	4.9	0.5
1938	123	...	...	.52	...	...
1939	162	...	...	.68	...	...
1940	240	1	.04	1.00	4.2	0.4
1941	127	1	.04	.53	7.9	0.8
1942	72	...	...	.30	...	...

Diphtheria.

Year, 1942.

Number of cases notified	291
Number of deaths, year 1942 (calendar)—	
Males	8
Females	3

Diphtheria.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Death rate per 10,000 population.	Cases per 1000 persons living.	Deaths per 1000 cases notified.	Death % of cases.
1923	870	32	1.5	4.02	36.8	3.7
1924	597	20	.9	2.76	33.5	3.4
1925	473	13	.6	2.19	27.5	2.7
1926	347	6	.3	1.62	17.1	1.7
1927	507	10	.5	2.38	19.7	2.0
1928	908	18	.8	4.21	19.8	2.0
1929	488	18	.8	2.24	36.9	3.7
1930	573	20	.9	2.59	34.9	3.5
1931	589	19	.8	2.62	32.3	3.2
1932	455	17	.8	1.96	37.4	3.7
1933	706	16	.7	3.14	22.3	2.2
1934	491	22	.9	2.14	44.8	4.5
1935	537	24	1.0	2.34	44.7	4.5
1936	575	20	.9	2.49	34.8	3.5
1937	305	12	.5	1.30	39.3	3.9
1938	343	10	.4	1.46	29.2	2.9
1939	365	14	.6	1.53	38.4	3.8
1940	366	18	.8	1.53	49.2	4.9
1941	401	25	1.0	1.67	62.3	6.2
1942	291	11	.5	1.21	37.8	3.8

APPENDIX V.

ANNUAL REPORT OF LACHLAN PARK HOSPITAL.

Lachlan Park Hospital,
New Norfolk, 19th August, 1943.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to present the annual statistical returns in connection with the Lachlan Park Hospital for the year ended 30th June, 1943.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES R. D. BROTHERS,
Medical Superintendent.

The Secretary for Public Health.

TABLE 1.

TABLE showing Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1942-43.

	Males.	Females.	Total	Males.	Females.	Total.
In Hospital on 30th June, 1942	...	...	...	320	347	667
Admitted for the first time during 1942-43	45	60	105			
Re-admitted during the year 1942-43	23	36	59	68	96	164
Total under care during the year 1942-43.....	...	...	...	388	443	831
Discharged and died during year 1942-43—						
Recovered.....	4	2	6			
Improved	44	63	107			
Unimproved	6	4	10			
Died	19	37	56	73	106	179
Remaining in Hospital on 30th June, 1943	...	...	...	315	337	652
Average daily number resident during 1942-43	...	...	...	317·04	339·66	656·7

TABLE 2.

TABLE showing the manner in which Patients were admitted during the Year 1942-43.

How Admitted.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Private Order	13	23	36
Justices' Order	15	32	47
Police Magistrate's Order.	11	2	13
Governor's Warrant	2	...	2
Voluntary Boarders.....	6	9	15
National Service Reg. 47...	1	...	1
Re-admit. from trial leave.	20	30	50
	68	96	164
First Admission	45	60	105
Second „	16	16	32
Third „	2	3	5
Fourth „	...	3	3
Fifth Admission & Over ...	5	14	19
	68	96	164

TABLE 3.

TABLE showing Probable Causes of Insanity in Patients admitted during 1942-43.

Causes of Insanity.	Predisposing.			Exciting.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Moral—									
Domestic Troubles and Bereavements	...	...	...	4	6	10	4	6	10
Business Worries	...	...	...	4	1	5	4	1	5
Anxiety and Overwork	...	...	...	1	5	6	1	5	6
Fright and Shock.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Love Affairs	...	...	...	1	2	3	1	2	3
Environmental Influence	3	3	6	1	...	1	4	3	7
Physical—									
Alcohol and Drug Addiction	...	..	...	4	5	9	4	5	9
Venereal Diseases.....	...	...	...	3	...	3	3	...	3
Accident and Injury.....	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1
Puerperal	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	2	2
Lactational.....	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Other Bodily Diseases	...	...	...	2	9	11	2	9	11
Congenital Defect	1	1	2	13	12	25	14	13	27
Puberty	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	2
Climateric	3	2	5	...	...	...	3	2	5
Senility	11	13	24	...	...	...	11	13	24
Previous Attacks	7	19	26	...	...	...	7	19	26
Hereditary Influences	9	8	17	...	...	...	9	8	17
Epilepsy (acquired)	...	...	...	4	6	10	4	6	10
Unknown ...	...	...	...	2	3	5	2	3	5

TABLE 4.

TABLE showing the Form of Mental Disorder on Admission for 1942-43, and the Form of Mental Disorder of the Patients remaining on the Books on 30th June, 1943.

Form of Mental Disorder.	Admissions.			Remaining in Hospital.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
I. Congenital Mental Deficiency (Idiocy or Imbecility) :						
1. Intellectual—						
(a) With Epilepsy	3	1	4	14	10	24
(b) Without Epilepsy.....	8	6	14	95	70	165
2. Moral.....	3	11	14	2	6	8
II. Insanity occurring late in Life :						
1. Insanity with Epilepsy	3	5	8	9	13	22
2. Dementia Paralytica	3	...	3	10	...	10
3. Gross Brain Lesions	...	2	2	2	2	4
4. Alcoholic Psychosis	2	1	3	1	...	1
5. Confusional or Exhaustive Psychosis	1	3	4	...	2	2
6. Mania—						
(a) Recent	1	...	1	...	3	3
(b) Chronic	1	1	2	5	6	11
(c) Recurrent	1	3	4	3	6	9
7. Melancholia—						
(a) Recent	3	3	6	1	5	6
(b) Chronic	4	...	4	5	7	12
(c) Recurrent	1	6	7	1	2	3
8. Alternating Insanity	4	10	14	9	21	30
9. Involutional Melancholia	1	...	1	1	12	13
10. Schizophrenia	11	10	21	31	42	73
11. Paraphrenia	6	14	20	25	33	58
12. Paranoia	...	3	3	4	10	14
13. Dementia—						
(a) Senile	10	16	26	22	15	37
(b) Secondary or Terminal	2	1	3	75	72	147
	68	96	164	315	337	652

TABLE 5.

TABLE showing the Number of Admissions and Re-admissions, Discharges and Deaths, and the Number of Patients Remaining in the Hospital on 30th June, 1943.

Year.	Admissions and Re-admissions.			Discharges.									Deaths.			Remaining within Hospital on 30th June, 1943.					
				Recovered.			Improved.			Unimproved.									Total Discharges.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.						
1932-33	53	42	95	20	14	34	8	6	14	1	2	3	29	22	51	17	12	29	340	321	661
1933-34	44	39	83	16	19	35	7	3	10	...	...	...	23	22	45	19	23	42	342	315	657
1934-35	37	41	78	16	20	36	7	9	16	...	...	...	23	29	52	28	24	52	328	303	631
1935-36	55	57	112	4	3	7	28	21	49	4	2	6	36	26	62	29	16	45	318	318	636
1936-37	57	69	126	1	2	3	25	31	56	4	8	12	30	41	71	28	17	45	317	329	646
1937-38	60	61	121	2	5	7	35	32	67	5	2	7	42	39	81	25	26	51	310	325	635
1938-39	82	68	150	5	4	9	43	42	85	8	5	13	56	51	107	23	24	47	313	318	631
1939-40	90	76	166	5	5	10	41	30	71	9	6	15	55	41	96	31	30	61	317	323	640
1940-41	75	87	162	2	2	4	45	45	90	3	5	8	50	52	102	34	25	59	308	333	641
1941-42	82	100	182	1	...	1	47	57	104	...	6	6	48	63	111	23	23	46	320	347	667
1942-43	68	96	164	4	2	6	44	63	107	6	4	10	54	69	123	19	37	56	315	337	652

TABLE 6.

TABLE showing the Number of Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths for 1942-43; the Number remaining within the Hospital on 30th June, 1943; the Proportion of Recoveries, Per Cent. on the Number of Admissions, and the Percentage of Deaths on the Average Number Resident During 1942-43.

Admissions.						Discharges.												Deaths.			Remaining in the Hospital on 30th June, 1943.			Average Daily Number Resident during the Year 1942-43.			Percentage of Recoveries on Number of Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Daily Number Resident.								
First Admissions.		Treated Before.		Total Admissions.		Recovered.			Relieved.			Unimproved.			Total Discharges.			Total.			Total.			Total.			Total.											
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.									
45	60	105	23	36	59	68	96	164	4	2	6	44	63	107	6	4	10	54	69	123	19	37	56	315	337	652	317·04	339·66	656·7	5·88	2·08	3·66	64·7	65·6	65·2	6	10·89	8·5

TABLE 7.

TABLE showing the Conjugal Condition of Patients Admitted, Discharged, Died, and Remaining within the Hospital on 30th June, 1943.

Conjugal Condition.	Admissions.			Discharges.									Deaths.			Patients on Register on 30th June, 1943.		
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Unimproved.								
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Never married	35	47	82	2	1	3	26	34	60	3	2	5	10	17	27	255	210	465
Married .. .	25	35	60	1	1	2	17	25	42	3	2	5	5	13	18	48	101	149
Widowed .. .	6	14	20	1	..	1	1	4	5	..	..	..	4	7	11	6	25	31
Unknown .. .	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	7
Totals .. .	68	96	164	4	2	6	44	63	107	6	4	10	19	37	56	315	337	652

TABLE 8.

TABLE showing the Length of Residence of those Discharged, and those who Died during the Year 1942-43.

Length of Residence.	Discharges.												Deaths.		
	Recovered.			Relieved.			Unimproved.			Total Discharges.					
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Under 1 month	2	1	3	16	9	25	...	...	...	18	10	28	7	4	11
1 month and under 3 months	...	...	...	4	26	30	...	..	...	4	26	30	1	1	2
3 months " 6 "	...	...	...	7	11	18	...	...	...	7	11	18	...	1	1
6 " " 9 "	1	...	1	1	6	7	...	2	2	2	8	10	...	4	4
9 " " 1 year	...	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	2	1	3	2	...	2
1 year and under 2 years.....	...	1	1	5	8	13	1	1	2	6	10	16	...	5	5
2 years " 3 "	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	1	2
3 " " 5 "	...	...	...	4	1	5	1	1	2	5	2	7	1	3	4
5 " " 7 "	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	2	3
7 " " 9 "	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2	2	2	4
9 " " 12 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	2	...	2	1	...	1
12 " " 15 "	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	2	2
15 " " 20 "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	3
20 " " 25 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
25 " " 30 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	1	2	3
30 " " 40 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
40 " " 50 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
50 " " 60 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
60 " " 70 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	4	2	6	44	63	107	6	4	10	54	69	123	19	37	56

TABLE 9.

TABLE showing in Quinquennial Periods the Ages of Patients Admitted, Discharged, and Died during the Year 1942-43, and those Remaining within the Hospital on 30th June, 1943.

Ages.	Admissions.			Discharges.									Deaths.			Remaining on Register at 30th June, 1943.		
				Re-covered.			Re-lieved.			Unim-proved.								
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
5 years and under 10 years.....	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	6
10 " " 15 "	4	...	4	...	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	2	1	3	...	6	15
15 " " 20 "	2	6	8	...	...	...	3	4	7	...	...	...	3	4	7	...	9	12
20 " " 25 "	5	11	16	...	...	...	4	6	10	...	...	...	4	6	10	2	18	31
25 " " 30 "	9	6	15	2	...	2	8	3	11	...	...	...	10	3	13	...	12	30
30 " " 35 "	2	14	16	...	...	...	3	11	14	1	1	2	4	12	16	...	25	44
35 " " 40 "	8	10	18	...	...	...	4	11	15	...	...	...	4	11	15	...	28	57
40 " " 45 "	5	9	14	...	...	...	4	6	10	...	2	2	4	8	12	1	34	57
45 " " 50 "	3	2	5	...	2	2	...	2	2	1	...	1	1	4	5	...	33	65
50 " " 55 "	6	7	13	...	...	...	3	5	8	1	...	1	4	5	9	...	29	66
55 " " 60 "	2	5	7	2	...	2	2	3	5	...	...	...	4	3	7	2	27	56
60 " " 65 "	2	8	10	...	...	...	2	6	8	1	...	1	3	6	9	3	41	66
65 " " 70 "	7	7	14	...	...	...	3	1	4	2	...	2	5	1	6	2	23	48
70 " " 75 "	2	3	5	...	...	...	1	3	4	...	1	1	1	4	5	2	26	46
75 " " 80 "	2	2	4	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	3	1	11	24
80 " " 85 "	4	5	9	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	1	1	2	6	5	14
85 " " 90 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	7
90 " " 95 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unknown.....	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Totals	68	96	164	4	2	6	44	63	107	6	4	10	54	69	123	19	37	562

TABLE 10.

TABLE showing the Causes of Deaths during the Year 1942-43.

Causes of Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Diseases of the Nervous System—			
Cerebral Tumor.....	—	1	1
Epilepsy	—	1	1
General Paralysis of the Insane	1	—	1
Cerebral Softening	1	—	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage... ..	—	4	4
Diseases of the Cardio-Vascular System —			
Arteriosclerosis	1	2	3
Auricular Fibrillation	—	4	4
Aneurism	—	—	—
Coronary Disease	—	1	1
Chronic Myocardial Degeneration	4	1	5
Valvular Disease of the Heart	—	—	—
Diseases of the Respiratory System—			
Lobar and Broncho Pneumonia	4	1	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	5	8
Other forms of Pulmonary Disease	—	—	—
Diseases of the Digestive System—			
Intestinal Obstruction	—	—	—
Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System —			
Chronic Nephritis.....	1	2	3
Prostatic Enlargement.....	—	—	—
General Diseases—			
Dysentery	—	1	1
Malignancy	2	3	5
Senility	2	6	8
Sepsis	—	3	3
Suicide	—	—	—
Addison's Disease.....	—	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus.....	—	1	1
Total.....	19	37	56

TABLE 11.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

	YEAR ENDED.				
	30.6.39.	30.6.40.	30.6.41.	30.6.42.	30.6.43.
Average daily number of patients	640·67	631·41	639·5	657·52	656·7
Gross cost for year	£65,018	£67,976	£67,191	£69,626	£71,225
Fees received	...	...	...	£8424	£8594
Other revenue	£8790	£8353	£8660	£105	£289
Gross cost per head per day	5/5·76d.	5/10·56d.	5/9·11d.	5/9·62d.	5/11·3d.
Net cost per head per day	4/10·73d.	5/1·92d.	5/0·16d.	5/1·08d.	5/2·24d.
Farm— Loss and profit	(loss) £121	(loss) £695	(loss) £159	(profit) £36	(loss) £199

TABLE 12.

MILLBROOK PSYCHOPATHIC HOME.

STATEMENT showing Form of Mental Disorder on Admission for year ended 30th June, 1943.

Mental Disorder.	MALES.			Females.	Total.
	Civilians.	Service Men.	Total.		
Neuroses—					
Anxiety Stasis	7	30	37	2	39
Obsessional Neurosis	...	1	1	1	2
Neurasthenia	1	8	9	5	14
Hysteria	1	5	6	10	16
Psychopathic Stasis	...	9	9	...	9
Mild and Early Psychosis—					
Schizophrenia	1	4	5	10	15
Manic Depressive Insanity—					
(1) Mania	...	1	1	7	8
(2) Melancholia	3	...	3	12	15
General Paralysis of the Insane	6	...	6	...	6
Epilepsy	...	...	...	4	4
Alcoholic and Drug Addiction	1	..	1	1	2
Senility	...	...	...	1	1
Gross Brain Lesion	1	...	1	2	3
Relapse and re-admission of patients in above table	2	2	4	3	7
	23	60	83	58	141

TABLE 13.

MILLBROOK PSYCHOPATHIC HOME.

FINANCIAL.

	YEAR ENDED			
	30.6.40	30.6.41	30.6.42	30.6.43
Average Daily No. Patients	19·28	15·23	15·97	18·7
Gross Cost per Year	£3,192	£3,252	£2,959	£3,228
Fees Recived	£1,203	£952	£1,151	£1,889
Gross Cost per Head per Day	9/0·5	11/8·4	10/1·92	9/5·5
Net Cost per Head per Day	5/7·7	8/3·36	6/2·4	3/11·06

APPENDIX VI.

ANNUAL REPORT OF ST. JOHN'S PARK.

St. John's Park,
New Town, 19th July, 1943.

SIR,
I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report of St. John's Park for the year ended 30th June, 1943.

Statistics.

Number resident (30.6.42)	276
Admissions during the year	378
Total	654
Less—	
Discharges	255
Died	87
	342
Patients resident, 30.6.43	312

Admissions.

Admissions totalled 378 (207 males and 171 females). These figures show an increase over those for the previous year, when 362 persons (217 males and 145 females) were admitted.

Discharges.

There were 255 discharges (144 males and 111 females). These figures show a reduction over those for 1941-42, when 325 (208 males and 117 females) were discharged.

Mortality.

The number of deaths was 87 (42 males and 45 females). The average age of the people who died in the Institution was 72.62 years.

Daily Average.

The daily average number of ordinary inmates was 290.15 (175.52 males and 114.63 females), compared with 297.53 (187.41 males and 110.12 females) for the previous year. The daily average number of resident after-care patients was 36.78, compared with 35.88 for 1941-42.

The daily average for the whole of the Institution was 326.93, compared with 333.41 last year.

Revenue.

The revenue received from all sources amounted to £9693 2s. 10d., which was £2297 11s. 3d. more than that collected the previous year.

The increase in revenue was mostly due to Commonwealth legislation, which now provides maintenance for all pensioners in a benevolent institution.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the upkeep of the Institution was £29,266 1s. 4d., being an increase of £907 0s. 10d. compared with the previous year.

Gross and Net Cost of Maintenance.

There was an increase in both gross and net cost of maintenance, as detailed hereunder:—

	s.	d.
Gross daily cost per inmate, 1942-43	5	6.32
Gross daily cost per inmate, 1941-42	4	7.93
Net daily cost per inmate, 1942-43	3	8.35
Net daily cost per inmate, 1941-42	3	5.34

	£	s.	d.
Gross weekly cost per inmate, 1942-43	1	18	8.24
Gross weekly cost per inmate, 1941-42	1	12	7.51
Net weekly cost per inmate, 1942-43	1	5	10.45
Net weekly cost per inmate, 1941-42	1	4	1.38

Thanks for Donations.

On behalf of the inmates of St. John's Park, I desire to thank all those kind persons who again so generously provided gifts of money and goods for their comfort during the year.

Devotional.

During the year the spiritual welfare of the inmates was given every attention by the various denominations, services being held regularly at the Institution.

Yours, &c.,

JAMES TREMAYNE, M.B., M.R.A.C.P.,
Medical Superintendent.

The Secretary for Public Health.

APPENDIX VII.

Mental Deficiency Act.

CERTIFIED DEFECTIVES UNDER INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL.

The number of defectives under institutional control at the end of June, 1943, was 101, classified as follows:—Imbeciles, 15; feeble-minded, 84; moral defectives, 2.

In the Government Institution for Defectives at St. John's Park, New Town, there were 69 certified defectives (24 male and 44 female), classified as 13 imbecile (10 female) and 56 feeble-minded (35 female). Three of these patients were under sixteen. In the Lachlan Park Institution there were 32 male patients, including one moral defective, and in the Government Institution for Defectives at His Majesty's Gaol, Hobart, there was one patient (a moral defective).

During the period under review, the orders of 28 patients were varied to guardianship and five to supervision; and six patients were transferred to the Lachlan Park Hospital under the Mental Hospitals Act. The number under

guardianship or supervision was 75. Variation orders to supervision lapse ultimately on good behaviour. There were also 20 variations of placements as between institutions.

In addition, there is a number of middle-aged and old-aged inmates of St. John's Park who have not been certified as they have been admitted voluntarily and are exemplary in conduct.

The number of mentally defective patients in Lachlan Park Hospital not under the control of the Mental Deficiency Board is given in the annual report of the Medical Superintendent.

During 1942 the numbers of persons ascertained to be mentally defective were as follows:—Imbeciles, 5 (2 female); feeble-minded, 23 (14 female)—the total being 28.

